

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing sheet includes new Fig. 5.

Attachment: 1 New Sheet

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated December 9, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 9, 2009. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-15 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-15 are rejected. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: in paragraph [0002], "to classify or sought" should be "to classify or sort".

Applicants have amended paragraph [0002] of the pending published application and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

Applicants have added new Figure 5. Support for Figure 5 is disclosed in paragraph [0038], which incorporates by reference the subject matter of U.S. Patent No. 6,715,613, which includes Figure 5. Applicants submit that no new subject matter has been introduced and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claims 2-15 depend, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,141,821 to *Wolff*.

Wolff discloses screening elements 4 that have openings 5, which are spread over several screening zones 6, and which are provided with frames 8. The screening zones 6 are bordered by stays 7. Each of the frames 8 and the stays 7 surround the edges of the screening zones 6. See Col. 3, lines 29-36; Figures 1 and 2. However, *Wolff* does not disclose a reinforcing arrangement arranged beneath each aperture array, as recited in claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

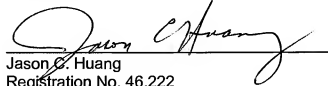
Claims 1, 2, 7-10, and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 01/41944 to *Eeles*.

Eeles discloses a screening member 12 having a plurality of panels 14, which are bounded by sides 18 and 16. The sides 16 contain reinforcing 28 with the sides 18 being without reinforcing. See Page 3, lines 30-36; Figures 1-3. However, *Eeles* does not disclose a reinforcing arrangement arranged beneath each aperture array, as recited in claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason C. Huang", is written over a horizontal line.

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